

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action that was mailed on February 8, 2007, the Examiner rejected all pending claims 1-14 and objected to the specification. Applicants have amended claims 8 and 9 to more particularly define the subject matter being claimed. The amendments add no new matter. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Specification

The Examiner objected to an informality in the specification. The Examiner contended that because "Windows" appears in Applicant's specification at page 2, it should be shown with a registered trademark symbol. The Examiner cited a Microsoft Corporation web page, <http://www.microsoft.com/library/toolbar/3.0/trademarks/en-us.mspx>, that lists Microsoft Corporation's trademarks. Applicants' specification at page 2 refers not to "Windows," but rather to "Windows CE." (Applicants' specification, page 2, line 21). The web page cited by the Examiner does not include "Windows CE" as a trademarked name (though "Windows NT," for example, is included). As such, Applicants submit that it would be misleading to include a registered trademark symbol with the "Windows CE" name, and Applicants request that the Examiner remove the specification objection.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for lack of antecedent basis for various claim terms.

Applicants traverse. Antecedent basis support for each of the cited claim terms can be found in original independent claim 9, from which each of claims 11-14 indirectly depend. Claim 11 recites "defining an application specification document by a meta-language," which finds antecedent basis support in original claim 9 at page 72, lines 15-16. Claim 12 recites "defining layout themes for the computing device," which finds antecedent basis support in original claim 9 at page 72, line 20. Claim 13 recites "realizing the user-interface model in an interpreter component," which finds antecedent basis support in original claim 9 at page 72, lines 20-21. Claim 14 recites "realizing the layout-themes in the interpreter component," which finds

antecedent basis support in original claim 9 at page 72, lines 23. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner remove the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections of claims 11-14.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 8-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being drawn to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner contended that claim 8 and claim 9 are non-statutory because language of the claims raises a question as to whether the claims are directed merely to an abstract idea.

Applicants have amended claim 8 to recite that the computer-program product is "embodied in a computer-readable storage medium." The amendment adds no new matter. Support for the amendment can be found throughout Applicants' specification as originally filed.

Applicants have amended independent claim 9 to recite "rendering a first object and a second object on the user interface of the device using the user interface model according to one of the layout themes for the device after receiving, at the device, the application specification document, wherein the application specification document includes a statement with an indication to render the first and second objects in the assembly." The amendment adds no new matter. Support for the amendment can be found throughout Applicants' specification as originally filed.

Applicants submit that the Examiner's concerns have been addressed, and request that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejections of claims 8-14.

Provisional Claim Rejection – Double Patenting

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1, 2, and 4-6 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 of copending Application No. 10/464,428. There is no such copending application having this application number. Applicants believe that the Examiner intended to refer to Application No. 10/646,428, and will assume this was the intended provisional rejection.

Applicants note the Examiner's concern, and will address the issue by filing a terminal disclaimer at an appropriate future time if and when claims 1, 2, 3, 6 or 7 from copending Application No. 10/646,428 issue.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by published document “UIML: An XML Language for Building Device-Independent User Interfaces,” by Marc Abrams and Contarinos Phanouriou (hereinafter, “UIML”). Of these, claims 1, 8 and 9 are independent. Dependent claims 2-7 depend from claim 1; and dependent claims 10-14 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 9.

UIML relates to a language that represents an interface in five parts: the interface structure, presentation style, content, actions taken in response to user interaction, and interconnection of the interface to application logic. (page 1, Abstract section). There are five main elements in a UIML document. (page 4, UIML – Main Elements section). A structure element includes an enumeration of the set of interface parts comprising the interface, where each part is given an instance name and a class name. (page 4, UIML – Main Elements section). A content element specifies the content. (page 4, UIML – Main Elements section). A behavior element describes the behavior of the interface when the user interacts with it, and has an enumerated set of conditions and associated actions. (page 5, UIML – Main Elements section). A style element specifies presentation style that is device-specific for each class of interface parts, or for individual named instances of a class. (page 5, UIML – Main Elements section). A peers element specifies what widgets in the target platform and what methods or functions in scripts, programs, or objects in application logic are associated with the user interface. (page 5, UIML – Main Elements section).

Applicants submit that claim 1 defines subject matter that is patentable over UIML because UIML does not disclose or suggest all of the elements recited in Applicants’ claim 1. For example, UIML does not disclose or suggest a method that includes “receiving an application specification document . . . having a statement with an indication to render the first and second objects,” “interpreting the statement . . . to identify a presentation pattern for the assembly from predefined first and second presentation patterns according to the type of the device,” and “rendering the assembly of the first and second objects on the user-interface according to the presentation pattern.”

The Examiner contended that certain portions of page 3, page 5, and figure 3 of UIML disclose these aspects of Applicants' claim 1. (Office Action, pages 9-10). This is not correct. Nowhere does UIML disclose or suggest receiving a document having a statement with an indication to render first and second objects and interpreting the statement to identify a presentation pattern for the assembly from predefined first and second presentation patterns according to the type of the device. In contending that UIML does disclose these two limitations, the Examiner cited the same portion of the page 5 section "UIML as a meta-language." In particular, the Examiner cited "UIML document specifies a mapping of those names to a vocabulary specific to a particular target platform." (Office Action, pages 9-10).

This is very different from the objects of different types and the predefined presentation patterns according to the type of device recited in Applicants' claim 1. For example, the UIML sentence that immediately follows the sentence cited by the Examiner reads, "[f]or example, if the target is Java AWT, the vocabulary might consist of the *java.awt* and *java.awt.event* class names, such as *Frame*, *Menu*, and *Button*." Even if these class names may correspond to objects, which Applicants do not concede, they certainly are not a predefined presentation pattern as recited in Applicants' claim 1. Neither does figure 3 of UIML disclose or suggest predefined presentation patterns or identification of a presentation pattern from predefined first and second presentation patterns according to the type of the device, in contrast to the Examiner's contention.

Neither is Applicants' claim 1 obvious in view of UIML. UIML does not provide any details concerning how objects are presented in user interfaces of various devices. While UIML mentions that it discloses an XML language that permits description of a user interface in a device-independent manner, (page 1, Abstract), no details are provided concerning how anything actually gets presented on a user interface. Mapping of names between platforms, as UIML discloses, is an abstract notion devoid of explanation or specifics that would permit one skilled in the art to arrive at the method of Applicants' claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 defines subject matter that is patentable over UIML.

Dependent claim 5 depends from claim 1, and thus is patentable over UIML for at least the reasons described above with reference to claim 1. Additionally, claim 5 recites “wherein the presentation pattern is identified according to the size of the screen.” The Examiner contended, in rejecting claim 5, that UIML discloses this aspect at figure 1, figure 3, and related discussion. (Office Action, page 11). This is not correct. Figure 1 of UIML simply shows a block diagram having two devices, and describes one as presenting information in English and the other as presenting information in French. Figure 3 also shows two devices, but does not show or describe differences in presentation, let alone differences in presentation based on screen size, and nowhere in UIML are these aspects disclosed or suggested. As described above, UIML does not disclose or suggest predefined presentation patterns, and certainly does not disclose or suggest identifying a presentation pattern based on size of the screen of the device. Without limitation, Applicants submit that this provides at least an additional reason why claim 5 defines subject matter that is patentable over UIML.

Claim 8 recites a computer-program product having instructions that when executed perform the method of claim 1, and is patentable over UIML for at least the reasons described above with reference to claim 1.

Claim 9, as amended, is similarly patentable over UIML because UIML does not disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in claim 9. For example, UIML does not disclose or suggest a method that includes “customizing a workbench component that identifies constraints on the validity of the application specification document.” The Examiner contended, in rejecting claim 9, that figure 1, figure 3, and related discussion of UIML disclose this aspect of claim 9. (Office Action, page 12). This is not correct. Neither figure 1 nor figure 3 of UIML show a workbench component or anything resembling a workbench component, and no mention or suggestion is made in UIML of identifying constraints on the validity of the application specification document. Furthermore, amended claim 9 recites “rendering a first object and a second object on the user interface of the device using the user interface model according to one of the layout themes for the device.” UIML also fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of

Applicants' claim 9. For at least these reasons, claim 9 defines subject matter that is patentable over UIML, as do each of dependent claims 10-14.

Applicants submit that each of claims 1-14 define subject matter that is patentable over UIML, and ask that the Examiner remove the anticipation rejections of these claims.

CONCLUSION

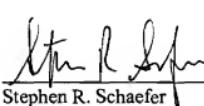
Applicants submit that claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stephen R. Schaefer

Reg. No. 37,927

Fish & Richardson P.C.
60 South Sixth Street, Suite 3300
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 335-5070
Facsimile: (612) 288-9696